

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/NL 03/00770

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G02B1/11

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G02B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 146 093 A (NISSAN CHEMICAL IND LTD ;NIPPON KAYAKU KK (JP)) 17 October 2001 (2001-10-17) abstract paragraph [0001] page 0006	1-6,20
X	US 2002/018886 A1 (MATSUFUJI AKIHIRO ET AL) 14 February 2002 (2002-02-14) abstract; claims 1-13 ----- -/-	1-6,20

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

27. 04. 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	IBN-ELHAJ M ET AL: "Optical polymer thin films with isotropic and anisotropic nano-corrugated surface topologies" NATURE, MACMILLAN JOURNALS LTD. LONDON, GB, vol. 410, 12 April 2001 (2001-04-12), pages 796-799, XP002214933 ISSN: 0028-0836 cited in the application page 796, left-hand column, last paragraph - right-hand column, paragraph 2 -----	13
A	WO 01/29148 A (SCHADT MARTIN ;ROLIC AG (CH); IBN ELHAJ MOHAMMED (CH); SCHMITT KLA) 26 April 2001 (2001-04-26) page 1, paragraph 1 page 1, line 31 - page 2, line 4 page 2, line 16 - line 24 page 4, last paragraph page 6, line 18 - page 7, line 19; claim 1 -----	13
A	WALHEIM S ET AL: "Nanophase-separated polymer films as high-performance antireflection coatings" SCIENCE, AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE, NEW YORK, US, vol. 283, no. 5401, 22 January 1999 (1999-01-22), pages 520-522, XP002119270 ISSN: 0036-8075 cited in the application the whole document -----	13

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 19
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-6, 12-18, 20

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 19

Claims not searched: 19

Claims searched incompletely: 1-6, 12, 20

Claims searched completely: 13-18

The initial phase of the search in respect to claim 1 revealed a very large number of documents relevant to the issue of novelty. Therefore, it is impossible to determine which parts of dependent claims may be said to define subject-matter for which protection might legitimately be sought.

Moreover, dependent claims 2-5 and 12 relate to products defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, e.g. hardness, tensile modulus or scratch resistance. The claims, therefore, would cover all products having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT for only a very limited number of such products.

Furthermore, claims 1-6, 12-20 on one hand and 7-11, 12* and 20* (* if dependent on any of 7-11) lack unity of invention (Rule 13 PCT); see attached explanations.

Claim 19 is not defined by technical features of the device and so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search is impossible.

Consequently, the search was carried out in respect to claims 13-18 and, partially also in respect of claims 1-6, 12 and 20.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-6,12-18,20

Process for preparing an anti-reflective single layer
hard-coat and hard-coat

2. claims: 7-11, 12(if dependent on any of 7-11), 20(if dependent
on any of 7-11)

Single layer hard-coat with refractive index gradient

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1146093	A	17-10-2001	EP 1146093 A1	17-10-2001
			US 6713170 B1	30-03-2004
			CN 1329644 T	02-01-2002
			WO 0034396 A1	15-06-2000

US 2002018886	A1	14-02-2002	JP 2001243841 A	07-09-2001
			JP 2001310423 A	06-11-2001
			JP 2001323087 A	20-11-2001
			JP 2001330702 A	30-11-2001

WO 0129148	A	26-04-2001	AU 7638600 A	30-04-2001
			WO 0129148 A1	26-04-2001
			CN 1377399 T	30-10-2002
			EP 1230319 A1	14-08-2002
			JP 2003512641 T	02-04-2003
